

THE
DEIST'S
CREEED,
WITH THE
FREE-THINKER'S
ANNEX.

By a Gentleman of Trinity College,
CAMBRIDGE.

Suave mari magno, &c.

Lucret. Lib. 2.

Omnis enim Divûm, &c.

Lucret. Lib. 1.

L O N D O N,

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THE
DEIST

AND
WITNESS

THE
NEW

By a Gentleman of Trinity College
CAMBRIDGE

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LONDON
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THE
DEIST'S CREED,
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FREE-THINKER'S *Annex.*

' **T**IS sweet, when furious storms plough
up the mayn,
And rouze old Ocean from his bed a-
ghast;

To view, on land, from payn, and danger, free,
The cruel toyls, the mariner endures,
To work the lab'ring barque, and keep her to.
Not that the generous mind can pleasure take,

In seeing Others pain : or feeds on misery :
But, weighing things in Reasons equal scales,
By just comparisons she tries herself:
And feels, from Others woes, how much She is blest,
SO, from the summitt of some neighbouring hill,
T' o'erlook the legions battling in the plain,
In horrid fronts oppos'd; falling, and fallen,
Midst death and wounds, makes life, and peace, more
sweet.

BUT nothing sure can greater pleasure give,
Than to keep well secur'd; and guarded round;
The lofty seats, rais'd by the wisely learn'd.
Whence you may downwards look; and see Mankind
Dispers'd; and straggling; roaming to, and fro;
Lost in their Wish, in the vast wild of Life.

Oh! how the busy emmets swarm! and crawl
Backwards, and forwards, on their puny hill;
Each in his track; all loaden; labouring all!

How

With the FREE-THINKER'S Annex. 5

How each, by means distinct, and schemes apart,
To gain the height, and fix his station, strives!

HERE, Wit: There, Eloquence: Here, Science
shines:

There, Arts industrious flourish: Each the other
Outrivalling with differing blaze of light.

HERE, under *Pindus* shades, in flowry groves,
By balmy zephyrs fan'd, the Muse reclines;
Warbling to birds; and murm'ring with the streams;
Lulling the amorous heart.—There, rays'd on high,
She swells her notes; and shakes *Parnassus* tops;
Arms, and the Man, resounding: Trump of Fame!
Raising her heroes to the rank of Gods:
She sings them loud Immortal.

Here, the Nobles,
In party close combin'd, defend their Blood.
There, dreadfully dividing, drench each others.
How! there, ambition, rage, revenge, and envy,
Pride,

Pride, lust, and avarice, inflame the contest!

Yell to the dogs of war; to whet their fury;

To range the field; and revel in the carnage!

HOW all, by toyl incessant, night, and day,

By several ways; (by honest ways how few!)

Sweat to attain their wish! To rise to Wealth!

To empty; impotent; to joyless wealth!

The pain of anxious years; and prey of moments!

Or, vainly strain their all, to grasp at Power!

To govern, all-controlling, uncontroll'd!

That may make wretched; never can make happy!

OH wretched minds of men! oh breasts most
blind!

Whose understandings see not; whose desires

Pursue not solid Good: but hunt the ay!

In what gross darkness; o'er what dangerous steeps

Is drag'd, whatever be our lot of time!

And with what contradiction! Don't we see

That

That Nature, beauteous in her modest plainness
And innocent simplicity, craves nothing:
Full in herself, and perfect? All She asks,
Is: That, the Body being free from pain:
The jarring fluids, equal poiz'd, may run
Their subtle maze; and actuate the frame.
The mind enthron'd in downy pleasures fit;
Circled with smiles; and flowing o'er with joy:
With no intruding cares of life disturbed;
No dreads of loss; no fears of stain; or shame;
Nor haunted with the idler Dreams of worse,
From Gods with passions, and from dark hereafters.

FOR, in itself, the Nature of the Gods
Is, and must be, widely remov'd from Ours:
Not knowing, or concern'd in our affairs:
Full, in itself; and of itself alone;
It needs not Us: wants not our feeble ayd:
Nor minds our fruitless prayers; or groundless praises:
They,

8 *The* DEIST'S CREED,

They, with our trifling incence, sport of winds,
 Are loosely blown around: and ne'er approach It!
 Ev'n Hecatombs, of fam'd *Clitumnus* breed,
 With gilded horns, and flowry chaplets, gaudy;
 Hallow'd with wine, and savoury libations;
 In solemn pomp, by holy butchers, slaughter'd;
 Prevayl no more, than *Lesbia's* sparrow, dying.
 No thing we do can win, or lose, Its Favour:
 All is beneath regard: with It, of passion,
 And every meaner imperfection, voyd,
 We have no merit; and can have no fault.

THUS sings *Lucretius*; Earth-born Bard; the Sire
 Of Reasoners minute; amphibious brood
 Of True, and False; of heterogeneous nature;
 Man, upright to the waste, and Horse below:
 A Monster by Himself disclaym'd. Whence then,
 His choice more monstrous? to pervert such talents
 To such an end? to prostitute the muse,

Daughter

Daughter of *Jove*, against Her Father's crown?
Her chastity to use impure devoting,
And heavenly notes to impious numbers tuning?

ALASS! what's This, but chasing empty Shadows;
This sure is wide the mark; 'tis fancy all!
A Fairy dream! a cloud in *Juno's* shape!
Without support! and no support can give!

✓ Dig deeper, Thou sweet miner; further search;
And bring up Ore substantial, golden Truth:
And, on thy shell newstrung, divinely sing her.

SING; That Man's Happyneſs conſiſts in This:
Being, and doing, Good. Severely reaſoning;
And ſtrictly following That. Confeſſing firſt;
(The Baſe eternal, of all truth, and wiſdom;
Source of all hope; and fountain of all joy;)
The great, ſupreme, and ſelfexiſtent, Being;
All-knowing; always preſent; ever good;
Lovely in power almighty; fear'd for mercy;

Righteous ; and Just ; Unchangeable ; and True ;
 Author ; director ; and support, of All.

THENCE, lowering down his thoughts, view-
 ing himself,

By inward light, irradiating the mind,
 Conscious of inborn strength, and native freedom ;
 The work, and image, of essential Sapience ;
 Offspring of heaven ; and form'd for all perfection,
 Guided by Nature ; and by Reason led ;
 Laws to the being giv'n : the rules of life,
 Through all its periods, fix't.

Enjoying here

What Providence, with bounteous hand, bestows,
 Upon its helpless child, its naked creature,
 With thanks, and praise, to the all-gracious Donor.
 Under whose ample shield, and brooding wings,
 The mind, securely guarded, rests at ease,
 Basking, and batt'ning in the genial warmth.

ALL

ALL day She contemplates Her Maker's works:
And Him in Them. The wide Expanse above,
Throne of Immensity. The glorious Sun;
Resemblance of His active power, and goodness;
Fix't in its one abode; pervading all;
Spring of all light, and heat; all life, and comfort;
All animal strength; and vegetable glory.

OH! how the grand Machine of this our System,
Form'd by His Word; and motion'd by His Will;
Hangs steddily in infinity of Space;
Firm in itself; and bounded round with worlds!
How every wheel in the great compound moves,
Distinct: but fram'd to others: acting, and acted,
With equal laws, and mutual force attractive;
For ever changing, to be still the Same!
How every part with its own lustre shines,
To make One radiant Whole: Fair; Great; and Noble;
And show the Founders Skill, and Power, Almighty!

HOW every Orb; each in its proper round;
Dances, in govern'd Step, to spherul musick:
Variant in Site; and Shape; in Bulk; and Motion;
In Distance; and Attendants!

First; and Higheft;
Remotest from the Sun's all chearing lamp,
Fix't in the central point, to rule them all;
And next th' extremest verge, of learnings ken,
And Knowledge sure: (For all beyond is dark;
The land of Comet; and portentous Sign;
Of vain conjecture; and loose cobweb scheme:
Uncertain: and unknown: and 'longs not to us.
In vain Astronomer, thro' Magick glass,
That draws obsequious Planet from its sphere,
On *Wansted's* Masts versatile; wondrous power!
Or from the darkling caves of *Greenwich* depths;
Or *Trinity's* proud tow'rs; (aerial feat
Of sage Plumeans; Who, with Sextant rare,

And

With the FREE-THINKER'S Annex. 13

And sharpest eye, watch all the starry changes;
And keep exact the Register of heaven)
Surveys those flow-pac'd Globes : all art is useless ;
None lessens, none augments, their equal light ;
None gives their parallax ; none speaks their distance,
Not to be span'd, but by their Infinite Maker)
Surrounded with his numerous guard of moons ;
Distanc't in regal state ; file quintuple ;
Girt with his massy belt : dim, dull, and sullen,
With creaking wheels unwieldy *Saturn* rowls :
The Elephant of heaven, huge, and hideous.

JOVE next, with sprightly, and salubrious, rays,
Largely his blessings show'rs from horns of plenty :
Calling Mankind to praise His Maker with Him,
His Instrument of good. His circumjovials,
Quaternion jocund, comforting their Chief
With light, and heat reflex : in duteous care
Collecting, and invigo'rating, the Suns beams

Scat-

Scatter'd, and with their tiresome journey weary'd.
Nor without use to man : By oft eclipsing,
Measuring the momentaneous race of light :
And longitude in doubtful climes assuring ;
The travellers surest guide.

Then red, and fiery,
Mars wrath, and ruin threats : from bloated cheeks
Denouncing bloody War : The God of Tyrants ;
Bane of mankind ! oh ! why such horrent creatures !
Such shocks to Nature, Order, and to Peace !
Unless, like Gall, to rouse the stagnant blood ;
To ferment, and volatilize the mass ;
To purge its dross, and recrement away :
That the refin'd remayns may purer flow ;
And subtler spirits yeild ; sublim'd most rare ;
And near akin to Soul : Her fittest organ
For thought, and act, and junction to the Body ;
Of midle nature ; as on both confining.

NEXT

NEXT *Mars*, (and may he keep his distance ever!
Nor shed his balefull influence more near!)
Compound of various elements, The *Earth*,
With her incircling moon, her dear companion;
Her love; her health; and life; her annual round,
In planetary step, just mood, performs.
Now slow, when distant; rapid, when more near;
Elliptick measures. Now, by rays oblique,
And watrish, feebly comforted: Now warm'd,
And hot, with darts direct: She leads the Seasons,
With different chaplets drest; of various hue;
Through days, and nights, altern; of differing lengths;
In Order; for the differing wants of Life.
Here Man is plac't; in happy temperature;
Fine medium; twixt the frozen climes of *Saturn*,
And *Mercury's* burning welkin. Wretched Planet!
Ruin'd by neighbourhood! like petty Princes,
(Speak *Rhine*, *Lorrain*) on o'ergrown Puissants bor-
d'ering. BE-

BENEATH the *Earth*; betwixt the *Earth* and
Mercury;

Bright *Venus*, ever beauteous; ever changing;
(Beauty is light, and loose; as air, and fancy;)
Moves gay, and wantoning. Now Full, refulgent,
Distent with light oppos'd, with smiles She sparkles;
Chearing the face of heaven. Or, in the morn,
Ushering the Sun to day: the wakeful hinds
Signal for labour. Or, when set at even,
Close following; the shepherds Star and hour;
To fold his weary'd flocks. Now pale, she horns
In gradual wayn; till, wasting to a blank,
She disappears; and by conjunction is lost.

LAST, *Merc'ury*; inmost; nearest to the Sun;
Whirls quick his orb adust, in constant fury;
Absorp't, and lost in That more powerful light:
Nor seen by natural Eye: but when the Moon,
With central interposing, veils the Sun;

And

And intercepts its rays: then *Mercury* shines,
By darkness gayner, to a frightened world;
And reigns in gloom, and silence, chill, and horror.
As late he shone on *Brittain*. Dreadfull hour!

WHAT Use These all are of; or joyn'd; or single;
To others; or themselves: To what design'd;
Or, to what service, Each; what end to answer;
Whether, for Habitations of the Blest;
Rewards for Virtue; and a life of Reason,
When lost to this world: Or, for Punishment
For wretches lost to Reason, and to Nature:
Or, fitted with their own Inhabitants,
On Purposes distinct; of proper Powers:
Reason informs not; Nor does it import Us.
Vain barren Speculation, random Guess,
Ends all in Froth; for want of Substance, dangerous.

BUT surely; So much Beauty: so much Order;
Just, True, and Exquisite: such constant Law:

C

Such

Such signs of Wisdom : and such proofs of Goodness;
 Bespeak Design : and what design? but Good,
 Like the great Architect? Lost in the waste
 Of wonders round ; in Number ; Weight ; and Mea-
 Eternal Stablishment : the thankful Soul [sure ;
 Breaks out in raptur'd Song : to laud Theyr Maker,
 To praise His riches ; and adore His Fullness.

HOW ; from This happy Site, like *Pisgab's* Top,
 With piercing rays ; thro' skyes serene ; the Eye,
 Uplifted ; clear ; and strong ; in One great prospect ;
 Runs o'er this Vale of life ; this Earth wee tread on ;
 This curious speck of rarities minute ;
 From borne to borne, around ! in all its Charms,
 With all its bubbling springs, and riv'lets, soothing ;
 Distinguisht in its Beautyes ; all delighting ;
 Ever increasing with fresh-growing Sweets.

HERE, ragged Mountains, on their hoary sides,
 The ayry streams condense : and in their bowels ;

In

In caverns deep; basins of hollow rock;
Form reservoirs immense; for every use;
Natures great Storehouse. To recruit the Earth
With alimental juice; prolifick power:
Drawn out in small canals; by several sluices,
Suited to every place: Thence swelling wide
To bound out neighbouring realms by mighty
streams:

Or joyn far distant, by shipbearing Seas.
Feeding the Oceans waste, by riotous Suns,
With fresh supplies of Fluid. Ever emptying,
And ever filling. Round of Providence,
Constant, and Uniform!

THERE reeking Vales
Suck in the fruitfull Showers: and Thanks return,
In Groves of Fruit; in fields of Paynt, and, Odour;
In Herbs for sickness; and in Grain for health:
Feasting each Sense, with luxury of innocence;

The Soul, with gratitude, and breathings pious!
A kind Creator, and a happy Creature!

HOW, from This view alone, is seen Mankind,
Diffused mankind, all of One Family;
One Race, and Blood; of One great Parent sprung;
To One good purpose form'd; by One law rul'd;
Link't to each other, by the strongest bands,
Reciprocal, of Duty, Love, and Interest;
Each others true Support: Each, in his place,
Of Need; of Use; of Beauty, to the Whole;
The builders Glory; and the buildings Strength;
Figure, and Prelude of Eternal Mansion!

NOR is Man, in himself considerd, single;
Whether in Outward form, or frame Within;
From first conception to his latest breath;
Through all the Stages of progressive life,
From child, thro' manhood, to extremest dotage;
Less cogent proof of Gods creating power,

And

And care continued o'er His fav'rite creature.

HOW, in the dark recesses of the womb,
The secret workhouse of mysterious Nature,
Form'd by spirituous gas impregnating
Atom minute, motion, and life begins!
How the fermenting Mass expands itself,
By plastick Virtue, into several Parts;
Of several Shapes! each for its Office fit;
And in its Place required! How firm the Bones,
And various! proper onely where they are put!
And with such curious Joynts, so apposite
Each to its end; that no contriving brain
Can Add, or Change, can Faulty find, or Useless!
How Stable all, and Strong! to fence secure
The treasuries of Life immur'd within!
But Who shall tell Those Wonders? where begin
Delineate all the intricacy's There;
Or Follow Nature through her long meanders?

Who

Who shall disclose the Origin of Motion
 In its First struggles? who declare its Cause?
 Or shew its Rise, more Hid, than head of *Nile*;
 And Beneficial more? Where, When, or How,
 Begins its Race? when Ended? how Continued
 In Stream Perpetual? startling thought! not less
 Than infinite Duration, or Extent,
 Unfathomable Secrets, hard to know!
 Harder to solve; yet certain fact, and evident!
 Whether by Inborn spring, or Outward force
 Propell'd! and by what Force, but His, Who
 form'd it!

Who, out of Contrarietys can raise
 Union! and make the jarring elements
 Cement with closest bands; by Opposition
 Mutual, Subservience mutual carrying on;
 And necessary Being, each for other!
 Without the Hearts protrusion, the blood stagnates

In

In clotted cells. Without nutritious Blood,
And blood-raised spirits imbib'd, the famisht Heart
Loses its strength; unable to exert
Its muscular powers, Antagonistic motion,
Dilating, and Contracting; Force altern.
So Life, for want of Motion There, is lost.
Thus Blood gives Motion: Motion Use to Blood:
Both Life to Man.

THUS too, that active Fluid,
Compound of multifarious Juices: some
Oily, and soft: some harsh, and fiery: some
To blunt the sharp: and some, to thin the gross:
Circling thro' Pipes of various Size, and Bore,
With different Force, at differing Angles, through
Strainers for each, of correspondent shapes,
Secerns the several kinds: and from itself
Feeds all its own Necessities: At Once
Moving, and moved; refining, to refine;

Each

24 *The* DEIST'S CREED,

Each others Cause; of joynt Support, and Need.
Seems this the work of Chance? so Uniform?
So Constant? speaks it not a Great Creator?

VIEW too the Structure of each Part within;
How Differing! and how Fit! conspiring all
In One design. The Heart, with brawny fides,
And double cavern, form'd: with mediant passage,
To force around the heavy mass in Embryo's,
Without concurrent Air: And yet how strong;
To stem the force of That, and stand its weight,
When, struggling into light, They draw it in!
How Then the lungs admit That subtle Inmate
Into their flaccid Cells; and widely swelling
Their bladders; through the rich embroidery
Its nitre suck! To feed the lamp of life:
To give fresh motion to the languent Blood.
And intimately mix its crude Supplies;
To pour into the Heart; thence, round the Body;
To

To answer every Call, and Use, of Life !
Can This be Accident? This Arts produce?
Or work of Skill finite? What ancient *Dedalus*?
What Cav'd Magician? or What modern Artist
From *Nuremberg*, fam'd nursery of Mechanicks,
Could such a Mouvement frame? of Parts so nice;
So small; so numerous; so perplex't, and free;
So joyn'd, and so distinct? Omniscience onely
Could Form at Once the complicate Idea!
As Power Almighty onely could Effect it.

THENCE view the make of Any outward Part;
The Eye; the Ear; the Nose; the Tongue; all, Inlets
To outward Sence; and Posterns to the Soul;
How exquisitely fram'd, Each for its Duty!
But who can solve, how Objects from without
Act on the Soul, by intermediate nerves?
Where are the Chambers, where inthron'd She sits;
And all their various embassy's receives;

D

Their

Their wants supplies; and grievances removes?
Whence, all her nimble Messengers, dispatcht
In instantaneous haste, to every post,
On every summons, execute her orders
Swift as her own Volitions? How She changes,
On every accident, her Form, and Motion!
Now swelling into wrath: now gently melting,
And sinking into love, frolick, and buxom:
Then pale with cold despayr, and black despondence,
Loseing herself; she flies away in ayr,
In sighs convulsive, and expiring breath!
Who can these differing motions clear explain?
Tell how She is acted by, or acts on, Matter?
What words, what image, can Her proper actions,
Her inward nature, represent, or shew?
Reflecting, reasoning, willing, choosing: all
Within Herself, and by Her self alone,
Perform'd, and govern'd: absolute, and free:

Determin'd in Herself : as is her Maker ;
Her Lord, her Life, her sure Support, and Trust?

HOW! by This Light is every Object chang'd?
How every thought, and thing, brings strong enjoyment !

Fills up each moment ; heightens each relation,
Each charity of life, with quick indearments ;
And shews a tendency direct to Bliss!
Reflects Her Maker on the panting Soul,
Perfect Himself ; designing all perfection !

NOR, with the Day, the noble scene is lost ;
Obscur'd by darkness ; or confus'd by dreams,
Fantastick gambols of a sickly brain :
The Ministers of peace around him hover ;
Chasing all envious whispering spirits from him ;
And bless his slumbers with the sights of Heaven :
Image so strong, that waking makes it real,
And dwells in raptures on the fancy'd Joy.

BUT should a low'ring cloud the prospect change,
And growling from afar, a tempest threaten;
Confounding warring elements together:
He, *Halcyon*-like, safe in His rockie nest;
Or, like the Founder of Stability,
Who fixt the world on Adámantine basis,
By force Almighty, glorious; never moves:
But rides the storm serene: secure He knows,
The Minister, that guides, and plays the ruin,
Will pass Him o'er; nor touch His hallow'd barque.
The lambent flames curl innocent about Him;
And with a Glory crown His faith more splendent.

OR should the Hurricane involve Him too;
And bear Him undistinguisht in its rage:
He meets it chearfull, and enjoys its fury.
Sure, tis His Makers voice: His call from heaven,
A loud demand for the just debt of life,
And talents lent: in mercy to his creature;

To take him to Himself; to end his labours;
To land him safe on the calm shores of Rest,
From a mean, trifling, and tumultuous World.
Sure, tis the Earnest of his Life improv'd:
The Prophets fiery Carr, that drives to Glory.

OR, should a Storm more dreadfull, One within,
Tear up the Soul; and widely spread the ruin,
With horror, and distraction, rack, and torture;
Opening the gashes of a wounded Conscience,
To fate the Vulture, preying on His heart,
Fresh growing ever, to be ever gnaw'd:
Immortal misery! Food of payn eternal!
Should grisly Fiends, with execrable grin,
And taunting scoff, frisk round; howling His sentence,
The dire award of long-offended Justice,
For Natures bounds transgress; for Reason scorn'd;
For Virtue, Grace, and every Gift despis'd;
A dismall roll of rapine; lust; and murder;

Of

Of fraud; and circumvention; orphans rob'd;
 And Widows plunderd; Sacred things profan'd;
 Profane made Sacred; every thing perverted,
 By vile ingratitude, and foul rebellion;
 Enormities transcendent! dreadful Summ!
 A heaven rejected! and a God defy'd!
 Here, even here, in this dire state of life;
 Life worse than death! anticipating all
 The Terrors, That can lead to, or inflict;
 Full swoln, to th' utmost size of Sin's deserts:
 Reason (the Noblest Gift of gracious Heaven,
 Gods substitute, to form, and guide the Man)
 Invok't in time; and listen'd to submit;
 With strong Elastick force restores Herself;
 And buoy's Her Care above the foaming billows,
 Sublime: If flaccid Nerves; or sluggish Blood;
 Mere outward accidents: not bound by reason;
 Or capable of guilt; prevent not Rising

THEN,

With the FREE-THINKER'S *Annex.* 31

THEN, then alais! perverting lights, or none;
May dim the Object; and confound the Judgment;
The Eye may film; and every Sence be barr'd;
And the imprison'd Soul, for want of Organs;
Of Liberty; and Knowledge; Strength; and Power;
May, vainly struggling, sink beneath the Load,
Too ponderous for its Frame, and laws of Union!
Sad Case! but fit for Pity, not for Wrath:
For Mercy, and Compassion, not for Vengeance!
Here Reason cannot save, destroy'd Herself;
Or guide when blind; or govern when o'erpow'rd.

ELSE on her seat sublime, with sway supreme;
Soon had She chas'd the ayry Elves away;
And kill'd, with Gorgon shewn, the rav'ning Glutton:
The Memory, which first Gave, had Cur'd the wound,
Like *Telephus*, with the same fate-ruling Spear;
And brightned up the Scene. For tho' It shew'd
The Maker angry; 'twas the Maker still:

The

32 *The* DEIST'S CREED,

The Father; yearning, with a Fathers bowels,
 To meet, to hear, and to receive His Son
 Returning: crying far off, Mercy Father!
 Pardon my past transgressions! Mercy Father!
 Then tears, in torrents, and heart-rending sighs,
 Precluding further utterance, but in groans;
 Groveling in dust He onwards trembling creeps;
 Steals to His Knees; and springs into His heart:
 Close clinging to the bursting flutterer; throbbing,
 In concert to the mouvements of his own!
 What can resist th' assault? O'ercome, with joy
 And tears hard-held, the angry Father sinks:
 Melts into fond embraces; kind caresses;
 Flings the avenging bolt disdaynfull by;
 And with One kiss gives everlasting Pardon;
 A Crown triumphant; and a seat of Glory.

OH Blest Repentance! thou celestial Fair!
 Soft, as the suckling Babe, with dimpled innocence,

With

With pretty smiles, and fondling plays indearing!
Daughter of Reason, in Her fullest Vigor
And strongest Bloom; begot by sage Experience,
Offspring of Time, and Truth! how great Thy power!
How strong Thy Influence! and Thy charms attractive!

Thou Parent of all Good! of every Virtue
Pregnant; All teeming with a fruitfull Issue!
What canst Thou not do? or what shouldst Thou not?
At Once thou grip'st the Whole Divinity;
And payst full homage to His several Attributes.
At Once, Thou ownest His Majesty; and Presence;
His Right, and Power, supreme: His Law Divine,
Righteous, and Just, and of Eternal Force;
And pleading Mercy, loud proclaim'st His Justice.
What more can be desir'd? What more design'd!
By Thee alone, and Thy transmuting Power,
The Man is chang'd; and born anew to life;

E

Restor'd

Restor'd to Nature; Upright as at first:
And boldly claims the Privilege of Innocence.

VIEW then, the mighty Difference, *Lucretius*;
And, on the View, confess Thy vain delusion.

Thy God; an idle, worthless, useless Being,
In Emty Space, o'er no Dominion, reigns:

As unadorable, so unador'd!

Thy Man; a mere machine; a bratt of chance;
Drop't into Being, unaccountable;

And unaccountably; without a Maker;

Without design; to no one Purpose made;

None known, or thought: rais'd for a moments shew,

To breath; to yawn; to stare a Life away;

Then sink, as Born for nothing, into Nothing.

Where is there room for Reason; need for Passions;

In such a Thing? a lump of Clay in Motion?

Or, It has none: or, to some Use ordain'd:

If some, to What? Ask, ask thy swelling Heart;

That

That busy thing, within thee. Craves She nothing
Peculiar to Herself? thinks She alone
On Matter? or can Matter think at all?
Soars She not up, on wide-spread pinions strong,
Amidst ætherial Spirits; Kindred claiming;
Unbody'd; Immaterial; Self-informing;
Like Eaglets, nobly struggling, tow'rd the Sun?
Speaks She not Thus? Why then, this mean desire?
This base, degenerate, Hope of being Nothing?
Raifing a barbarous Trophy to thy Pride,
On spoyl of Dignity; and Nature's ruin?
Perverse, and monstrous, Thought! Rather than give
The Great Supreme His due; and own His Power:
Man must create Himself: must be, and not be,
At the same time: and Something come from No-
thing.

Even Instinct; Reason, in her lowest form
And poorest dress; is all the guide allow'd Him.

And whence even That? from Nothing? or Himself?
Or from some power Superior? There it must End;
And Man, to be Man; to be truly Free;
And live by Reason; must be form'd by God:
Depend on Him; and pay all Duty to Him:
Who onely could create; and can Protect him.
Almighty Power declares His ayd Eternal:
Nor rests His Goodness, till He makes His Creatures,
Perfect; in Nature; Happynefs; and Glory.

THUS Reason unassisted clears Herself,
From the weak Shackles of Sophistic wisdom:
And gratefull seats her Giver on His throne;
Awfull with sweetness; and with Justice Kind:
And, Stablifhing, His right, asserts her own.
BUT then, what life, what vigour She receives;
When Truth, and Wisdom's self; assist Her efforts;
And to Her own, add Their resistless Force?
What picquant Joys? what Extasy fills the Soul?

When

When the Almighty draws the scene of Heaven;
Opeing, Himself; and all His treasures to her;
Alluring her to taste of every One?

How is She rayfed, and blest? when coming near,
She fees the dazling Round: and hangs attentive
On the still mufick of her Maker's Voice,

Voice of Eternal Truth? Thence She receives
The certain Clue, that safely guides, through all
The thoufand mazes of dark Providence:

All leading Uniform to one great Point.

A Glorious Labyrinth! joynt Work of Power,
Of Love, and Wifdom, infinite! Each amazing;
At every turn, in every charm enchanting!

HERE on His right, in Majesty, and Glory,
Amidft ten thoufand thoufands of His Saints,
Ecchoing their Hallelujah's; Cherub, and Seraph,
Swelling the joyous chorus; ftrains divine!

She Spy es Her Lord inthron'd! the Lamb of God!

The

38 *The* DEIST'S CREED.

The truly Well, belov'd! and onely Son!

HAIL! Saviour of the World! hail! Judge of all!
By Thee were all things made! all made for Thee!
Hail! Lord and Brother! God and Man in One!
First born of All! Firstfruit of All! Firm Pledge
Of Immortality, Thy Gift to All!

How! plead Thy Sufferings for Thy brethrens Guilt!
How! by Thy blood hast Thou their wounds heal'd
up!

And by That Sacrifice aton'd for All!

How great Thy power, to crown their Faith, and
Duty;

To blefs their Virtues; and reward their Pains?

Through Deaths tremendous paths Thou lead'st the
way

Triumphant; captive leading spoyl'd Captivity!

And, for Thy death, Thou, and they, live for ever!

For ever live, and reign! their Flesh, and Nature,

Im-

Immortal, Incorrupt, Unchangeable!

Transporting thought! Joy exquisite, and endless!

How shall my labouring Soul, her workings vent!

And sing the wondrous Truth? how praise Thy might,

How celebrate Thy Victory, and Prize!

HAIL conqueror! hail! Thou Life, and Soul
of Power!

Thou Strength of Life! All lovely Victor hail!

To Thy creating Powers I owe my Being!

In Thy Protection is my true Support!

And from Thy Mercy onely flows my Hope!

LOE! at Thy feet the suppliant humbly bends,
Suing for Grace, and Mercy; strongly pleading
His share with Thee in Nature; Right in Blood:
But founds his greatest Merit on Thy Cross.

Look on That Cross, and Me: on That, for Me

Thou gav'st Thy self: and payd'st My debt of death!

Vicarious ransome! Victim for the World!

And

40 *The DEIST'S CREED, &c.*

And can'st Thou Dy in vain? Forbid it Goodness!
Forbid it Justice! and forbid it Truth!

Canst Thou do ought in vain? in Death, or Life,
Thou triumph'st equal: and set'st free the Slave.
That, stands the Law: This, shews the Law fulfil'd;

The Majesty Offended, Satisfy'd:
With all His Rights, and Claims, devolv'd on Thee;
The Bond transferd; the Property all thine;
And Life, redeem'd by Thee, become Thy Purchase.

SAVE then Thine own, Thou Lord of Life: and
make

Me live to Thee: in every Grace, and Gift,
Resembling Thee: and acting all Thy Will;
And living to Thee, Live for ever with Thee!

F I N I S.